bureaus, such as the Tsungli Yamen, were added to the old ones at Peking. New nation-wide services, principally the post office and the maritime customs, were created. A direct handling by Peking of many affairs formerly delegated to provincial and local officials was brought about by pressure from the highly centralized governments of the West. New taxes were levied, especially *likin*—the latter originally devised to help meet the cost of suppressing the T'ai P'ings. Late in the dynasty beginnings were made at bringing the laws and courts of the country more nearly into conformity with those of the West. After the Russo-Japanese War the administration of Manchuria was reorganized and Chinese were given a much larger share in it. The reform of the civil service was attempted and eventually (1905) the old system of examinations was abolished. Representative, elective provincial assemblies and a national assembly were instituted, and a parliament promised. The expenses of government increased, partly because of indemnities to the powers, partly because of the greater cost of the new military establishment, and partly because the state was compelled to undertake additional functions. Moreover, the financial stability of the government was threatened by the pledging of some of the major revenues, notably the customs duties, for the payment of sums due foreigners. None of these changes would necessarily have proved fatal to the fundamental features of the old government. It was ineptitude in high places which made impossible the orderly assimilation of innovations from the West.

As we have seen, the old has been progressively swept aside amid repeated Empire-wide disorder and civil strife. Only rem-

nants survive, and many of these are threatened. The passing of the examination system dealt the death blow to the prestige and dominance of Confucianism, which had been the means of national cultural coherence. In the new educational system, Confucianism retreated more and more into the background. The abolition of the monarchy cut off the head of the official hierarchy. This did not necessarily mean the end of a bureaucracy, for a somewhat similar institution has existed in republican France* The demise of the monarchy and of the old system of examinations, however, made essential radical readjustments in the methods of recruiting and choosing the members of the civil serv-